

**West Oxfordshire Combined Districts**

**Annual Report**

*of*

**Medical Officer of Health**

*for*

**19543**

**OXFORD**

**GEO. BRYAN AND CO.**



# **PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF**

**1954**

## **WEST OXFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS**

### **Medical Officer of Health**

A. J. CAMPBELL, B.Sc. (Oxon), M.D. (St. And.), D.P.H.,  
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### **Sanitary Inspectors**

#### **CHIPPING NORTON MUNICIPAL BOROUGH**

Chief Sanitary Inspector: T. W. JONES, A.R.San.I. (also Surveyor),  
Borough Surveyor's Office. Guildhall, Chipping Norton. (Tel.  
Chipping Norton 18.)

Additional Sanitary Inspector: S. Cocks, A.R.San.I.

#### **WOODSTOCK MUNICIPAL BOROUGH**

Sanitary Inspector: R. SHIRLEY, Council Offices, 6 Park Street,  
Woodstock (also Surveyor). (Tel. Woodstock 216.)

#### **WITNEY URBAN DISTRICT**

Sanitary Inspector: W. HETHERINGTON, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Council  
Offices, Church Green, Witney. (Tel. Witney 21.)

#### **BANBURY RURAL DISTRICT**

Chief Sanitary Inspector: H. WILKINSON, M.Inst.M. & Cy.E. (also  
Surveyor), Bodicote House, Banbury. (Tel. Banbury 3268/9.)

Additional Sanitary Inspector: C. A. WHITTLE, A.R.San.I.

#### **CHIPPING NORTON RURAL DISTRICT**

Chief Sanitary Inspector: S. P. BENDLE, F.F.S.(Eng.), M.R.San.I.,  
M.S.I.A. (also Surveyor), Sheep Street, Charlbury. (Tel. Charlbury  
31.)

Additional Sanitary Inspector: R. V. JOSHUA, C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

#### **WITNEY RURAL DISTRICT**

Chief Sanitary Inspector: W. T. STONE, A.R.San.I., Council Offices,  
The Hill, Witney. (Tel. Witney 57.)

Additional Sanitary Inspector: D. Gwyn Watkins, C.R.San.I.

# ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1953

## WEST OXFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

*To the Mayors, Chairmen and Councillors of the Constituent Authorities.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you the Annual Report for the West Oxfordshire Combined Districts for 1953, which has been compiled in accordance with the requirements of Circular 1/54 of the Ministry of Health.

### VITAL STATISTICS

The following are the Vital Statistics for the various local authorities in the Combined Districts for 1953.

#### *Birth Rates* (Corrected)

Chipping Norton, M.B.	18.4	Banbury, R.D.	15.2
Witney, U.D.	18.4	Chipping Norton, R.D.	15.2
Woodstock, M.B.	20.6	Witney, R.D.	22.1
England and Wales	15.5		

#### *Death Rates* (Corrected)

Chipping Norton, M.B.	10.7	Banbury, R.D.	8.5
Witney, U.D.	10.9	Chipping Norton, R.D.	7.7
Woodstock	21.9	Witney, R.D.	6.8

These figures are the corrected Birth Rates and Death Rates. This means that allowance is made for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in the various districts. Factors are provided by the Registrar-General which allow for this. The Death Rate for the Borough of Woodstock is high because of the inclusion of the deaths at Hensington House, which is a Part III institution under the National Assistance Act 1948.

### CAUSES OF DEATH

The most common cause of death was Heart Disease (excluding Coronary Thrombosis and Hypertension), 134 deaths. The following causes were the most frequent:

Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	134
Vascular Diseases of Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	109
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	91
Coronary Thrombosis	...	...	...	...	...	70
Circulatory Disease	...	...	...	...	...	17
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	17
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	17
Motor Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	10



It is interesting to note that 12 deaths occurred from Cancer of the Lung while only 2 deaths occurred from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Cigarette smoking has recently been suggested as a possible cause of the increase in this disease; and there is fairly strong statistical evidence that this may be so, but it is probable that various forms of atmospheric pollution may also be involved.

Coronary Thrombosis (70 deaths) has also increased in frequency recently. It has recently been suggested that lack of exercise and various dietic factors may be responsible, but the whole question requires further elucidation.

#### INFANT MORTALITY

The figures for each local authority are as follows:

Chipping Norton, M.B.	31.7 (2)	Banbury, R.D.	30.4 (7)
Witney, U.D.	57 (7)	Chipping Norton, R.D.	Nil
Woodstock, M.B.	Nil —	Witney, R.D.	24.2 (12)
England and Wales	26.8		

Attention is drawn by the Ministry of Health to the fact that excessive importance is sometimes attached to rates of infant mortality based on very small numbers, e.g., less than 10 deaths; it is suggested that in such cases the actual numbers of deaths should be shown—accordingly the number of deaths is given in brackets after each rate. It should be noted therefore that comparisons with other areas or earlier years may have little statistical significance.

In the whole area of the West Oxfordshire Combined Districts there were 28 deaths under 1 year in 959 births. This is an Infant Mortality of 29.2.

The following conditions were the cause of the infant deaths:

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	10
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	3
Perforation of Intestine	...	...	...	...	...	2
Congenital Defects	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	1
Intracranial Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	1
Maternal Toxaemia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pyloric Sternon	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gastro-enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Spinal Bifida	...	...	...	...	...	1
Mental Deficiency	...	...	...	...	...	1
Intestinal Obstruction	...	...	...	...	...	1
Atalectasis	...	...	...	...	...	1

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Apart from Measles and Whooping Cough the incidence of the notifiable diseases has been extremely low. 1953 was an epidemic year for Measles, 871 cases being notified, this number is considerably less than during the last outbreak in 1951. No deaths occurred. There were 186 cases of Whooping Cough notified.

Only 33 cases of Scarlet Fever occurred as compared with 52 in 1952. There were 22 cases of Pneumonia.

The incidence of Poliomyelitis was rather higher than usual. 8 paralytic cases occurred with one death, an acute case of bulbar paralysis. There was one non-paralytic case notified. Apart from the fatal case, the other cases were mild with very slight paralysis. Details are given under the various districts.

## FOOD HYGIENE

Only one case of Food Poisoning occurred during the year, an isolated case in a young woman in the Chipping Norton Rural District.

This subject is one which is becoming increasingly important. Most years recently one or two isolated cases of Salmonella infection have been reported by the laboratory, although so far at least there has been no actual outbreak of Food Poisoning. But the fact remains that potential sources of infection exist in the community and this means that extreme care is necessary on the part of all who engage in the handling and preparation of food, especially in hotels, restaurants, cafes and other premises where food is sold.

In view of this the Ministry have now asked for certain statistical information regarding the inspection of food premises for 1953, and this is given under the reports for the individual local authorities. Sanitary Inspectors now carry out routine inspections of the food premises in the area to ensure that the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act 1938 and the Food By-laws are being complied with.

## WATER SUPPLY

### (i) *Quality and Quantity*

Speaking generally it may be said that in those parts of the area which are served by piped supplies the water has been sufficient in quantity and satisfactory in quality. There are many cases, however, where there is no piped supply and the position is most unsatisfactory. In previous Annual Reports the special mention has been made of Hook Norton, where water has had to be carted since 1935. The Ministry have now given approval to the water scheme for the Banbury Rural District and it seems likely that a public supply for Hook Norton will be available in 1955.

Other villages where the position is unsatisfactory are Barford St. John and St. Michael, Wardington, Churchill, Great Rollright and Great Tew.



(ii) *Bacteriological Examination*

Where information is given regarding the bacteriological examination of water supplies the classification suggested by the Ministry has been adopted as follows:

						<i>Presumptive Coliform Count per 100 ml.</i>	
Class 1	Highly satisfactory	...	...	...	...	Less than 1	
Class 2	Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	1-2
Class 3	Suspicious	...	...	...	...	...	3-10
Class 4	Definitely polluted	...	...	...	...	Greater than 10	

Practically all of the public supplies examined during the year have been Class 1. No serious pollution occurred during the year; the majority of supplies on Class 4 were from private wells in the villages. Details are given elsewhere in the report under individual local authorities.

(iii) *Plumbo-Solvency*

There are no plumbo-solvent waters in the area, as practically all are hard waters.

(iv) *Contamination*

The main action necessary on account of contamination has been the carting of water to Hook Norton, where practically all the wells in the village are polluted.

(v) *Connection to Mains*

In the urban districts the majority of the houses are connected to the mains. As far as the rural districts are concerned it is difficult to give an accurate estimate of the proportion of dwelling houses or population supplied from public mains either direct to houses or by means of stand-pipes. In the case of Chipping Norton Rural District accurate figures are however available (about 60 per cent); in the case of Witney R.D.C. it is estimated that the figure is also about 60 per cent; in the case of the Banbury Rural District the figure is probably considerably less. Except in the case of Chipping Norton R.D.C. no separate figures are available for individual parishes.

## HOUSING

A survey has been undertaken of all kinds of a rateable value of under £20 in the rural areas and houses have been classified as follows:

Class 1. Houses fit in all respects.

Class 2. Houses requiring minor repairs.

Class 3. Houses with major defects capable of being made fit at reasonable cost.

Class 4. Houses suitable for demolition.

The following table shows the results of the survey.

	<i>Banbury</i> <i>R.D.C.</i>	<i>Chipping Norton</i> <i>R.D.C.</i>	<i>Witney</i> <i>R.D.C.</i>
No. of houses inspected	3026	3911	5518
Class 1	609	762	2064
Class 2	668	1467	891
Class 3	922	1282	2263
Class 4	827	400	300

The survey for the Witney Rural District has recently been completed, and it was found that many of the houses had been repaired by the landlords since the first inspection several years ago and could now be placed in a higher class. For example the number in Class 4 is now 300 whereas in 1952 395 houses were placed in this class. This is probably true of the other districts also. The Banbury Rural District has, as will be seen, by far the highest number of houses in Class 4. Unfit houses are dealt with whenever tenants are likely to be re-housed and this is all that can be done at the present. The Housing (Rents and Repairs) Bill at present before Parliament will, however, mean that Local Authorities will be required to make further effort in slum clearance, and several of the Sanitary Inspectors have started surveys with that end in view.

The problem of caravans is particularly acute at Carterton in the Witney Rural District and is still a serious question. Regulations for caravan sites have been drawn up and approved by the Local Authorities.

#### *New Legislation:*

The following new legislation of public health importance was passed in 1953.

#### *Acts:*

Slaughter of Animals (Pigs) Act 1953.

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953 (Sec. II).

#### *Statutory Instruments:*

Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1953.

Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Regulations 1953.

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) (Amendment) Regulations 1953.

#### STAFF

There have been few changes in the Staff in 1953.

Mr. W. J. Whettam, Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Inspector of the Borough of Chipping Norton retired on superannuation after many years' service in the Borough. He was succeeded by Mr. T. W. Jones. Mr. S. Cocks was appointed Additional Sanitary Inspector.



In conclusion I should like to thank the Surveyors and Sanitary Inspectors of the various Local Authorities who have provided much of the information contained in this report. In some instances separate reports have been issued by the chief Sanitary Inspectors, but for reasons of economy it has not been possible to include these.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A. J. CAMPBELL,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

CHIPPING NORTON MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	2380
Population:							
Census, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	3879
Mean Population, 1953 (R.G.'s estimate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3795
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	1122
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£20372
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£79

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

The town is an important agricultural centre. There is in addition a large tweed mill, an iron works and a provender mill.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

BIRTH RATE

	Total	Male	Female
Total	63	37	26
Legitimate	56	31	25
Illegitimate	7	6	1
Birth Rate per.1000		16.6	
Corrected Birth Rate		19.4	
England and Wales		15.5	
Still births per 1000		30	(2 still births)

DEATH RATE

	Total	Male	Female
No. of deaths	53	19	34
Death per 1000	13.9		
Corrected Death Rate	10.7		
England and Wales	11.4		

*Causes of Death*

Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Infective Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Coronary Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Enlarged Prostrate	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Motor Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
							—

## MATERNAL DEATHS

Nil

England and Wales

## INFANT MORTALITY

There were two deaths under 1 year, the causes being:

Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Perforated Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of deaths under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	2
No. of deaths under 4 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	2
Total Infant Mortality	...	...	...	...	...	31.7
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	17.8
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	14.0
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	26.8
Deaths from Measles	...	...	...	...	...	0
„ Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	0

## SECTION B

*Laboratory Work.* This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford.

No. of Swabs examined in 1953	...	...	19
Positive for Haemolytic Streptococci	...	...	6
Faeces	...	...	15
Other examinations	...	...	10



## SECTION C

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA -

*Water Supply.* There are two sources: (1) Springs in limestone at Old Chalford. (2) A well sunk in 1941,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles to the south-east of the town. There are three covered storage reservoirs and also a water tower. The water is chlorinated and is of good quality, though rather hard. Bacteriological examinations carried out each month showed that the water was Class I of the Ministry of Health classification.

*Sewage Disposal.* The majority of the houses in the town are connected to the public sewers. The disposal works are situated just outside the Borough boundary on the Worcester Road. The present scheme is inadequate for the needs of the population and is deficient in many respects. A new scheme has been prepared and has received the approval of the Ministry of Health.

## SECTION D

## HOUSING

*Unfit Houses.* Several of the Clearance Areas which became re-occupied during the War are still inhabited, and there are also a good many other houses in the town. A housing survey to ascertain the position accurately would be desirable. There are two hutted camps in the Rural District which belong to the Council which have been the subject of numerous complaints owing to dampness.

## SECTION E

## FOOD INSPECTION

*Meat Inspection.* Meat is inspected at the Central Slaughter-house of the Ministry of Food at Chipping Norton by the Sanitary Inspector of the Borough and Rural District. The following are the details required by the Ministry of Health.

Meat Inspection 1953

	<i>Cattle exclud- ing Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number killed	1165	229	658	3470	1846	7368
Number inspected	1165	229	658	3470	1846	7368
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis</i> Whole carcasses condemned	13	13	29	52	27	134
Carcases of which part or organ was condemned ... ..	555	73	10	116	212	966
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis	47.6	31.8	6.0	4.7	12.9	—
<i>Tuberculosis only</i> Whole carcase condemned ...	8	—	—	—	1	9
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	120	27	—	—	19	166
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis ... ..	10.9	11.7	—	—	1.0	—

Total weight of Meat Condemned in the year 1953:  
14 tons, 6 cwt., 1 qtr. 2 lb.

Food Poisoning. No cases occurred during the year.

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES AND TYPE

TOTAL NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS 58

Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
General Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 14 FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.  
1938

Ice-cream manufacturers' premises	...	...	2
Ice-cream Storage and Sale	...	...	12
Sausage manufacture	...	...	4
Fish fryers	...	...	2

PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS  
Nil

METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

Meat condemned as unfit for human consumption at the Slaughterhouse is at present disposed of in the manner approved by the Ministry of Food. After June 30th, 1954 it may be necessary to utilize the incinerator situated at Sarsgrove Sewage Disposal Works.

FOOD CONDEMNED AND DESTROYED DURING 1953. (Voluntary  
surrender by traders)

Tinned fruit.	52 tins (2 qrs. 5 lbs.).
„ Vegetables.	19 tins (1 st. 13 lbs. 10 ozs.).
„ Meat.	13 tins (1 cwt. 5 lbs. 12 ozs.).
„ Milk and Cream.	93 tins (1 qr. 12 lbs. 10 ozs.).
„ Jam.	1 tin (1 lb. 8 ozs.).
„ Fish.	21 tins (7 lbs. 6 ozs.).
Fresh bacon.	3 lbs.
Fresh meat.	189 lbs.

*Tinned Cream*

On November 4th the Sanitary Inspector condemned a quantity of 6 dozen and 5 tins of Galtee Cream. Subsequently it was known that this brand of tinned cream was suspected of being the vehicle of an outbreak of Paratyphoid elsewhere in the country, whereupon an inquiry was made with all traders in the town, and it was found that the above-mentioned consignment was the only quantity of this cream received in the Borough. It was ascertained that the balance of the condemned consignment had been sold outside the Borough, and the appropriate authorities for the area concerned were notified of the circumstances in order that they might take the necessary precautions.

SECTION F  
PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS  
DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR

<i>Disease</i>	No. of cases Notified		No. Admit- ted to Hospital	No. of Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	...	2	1
Measles	...	...	82	0
Dysentery (Sonne)	...	...	1	1



*Scarlet Fever.* Two cases occurred in 1953. One was a child at a Children's Home in the Borough; he was removed to the Slade Hospital, Oxford. The children were swabbed and the carrier of Haemolytic Streptococci were found and isolated.

The other case was a child attending a Junior School in the Borough.

*Dysentery.* One case of Dysentery—of the Sonne type occurred. The patient was notified from the War Memorial Hospital.

*Measles.* 82 cases occurred during the year. Only one required removal to hospital, a nurse at a Children's Home. No serious complications have been reported.

*Non-notifiable Diseases.* The following non-notifiable diseases have been reported from the Schools:

German Measles 7                      Mumps 7

*School Closures.* Nil.

#### TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary Male	Pulmonary Female	Non-Pulmonary Male	Non-Pulmonary Female	Pulmonary Male	Pulmonary Female	Non-Pulmonary Male	Non-Pulmonary Female
0— 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1— 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5—15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15—25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25—35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35—45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45—55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55—65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

No cases were notified in 1953; there were no deaths.

#### FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1949

<i>Inspections</i>	No. in Register	Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Prosecu- tions
1. Factories in which Secs. 1-4 and Sec. 6 apply ... ..	15	12	1	—
2. Factories in which Sec. 7 applies ... ..	15	10	2	—
3. Other Premises ... ..	—	—	—	—
Total ... ..	30	22	3	—

2. <i>Defects Found</i>		Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Sec. 1.	Want of Cleanliness	5	4	1
Sec. 2.	Overcrowding			
Sec. 3.	Unreasonable temperature			
Sec. 4.	Inadequate ventilation	1	1	
Sec. 6.	Ineffective Drainage of floors	2	1	
Sec. 7.	Sanitary conveniences			
	(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—
	(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	1
	(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act ...		—	—	—
			—	—
Total		10	8	2
No. of Outworkers ... ..		...	...	2

WITNEY URBAN DISTRICT

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	1306
Population:							
Census, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	6553
Mean Population, 1953 (R.G.'s estimate)						...	6574
Number of Inhabited Houses			...	...	...	...	2099
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£44691
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£169 3s 6d

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

The main industry of the town is blanket making, an industry which existed in Witney from very early times. The factories are modern, well conducted and the general working conditions are of an exceptionally high standard. There is also a glove factory in the town, two large laundries, a brewery and a mineral water manufacturing works.

More recently a machine tools works and a military clothing factory have been established. A considerable number of the inhabitants are employed at an electric clock factory just outside the town and also in connection with the Nuffield Group of Industries at Oxford.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

BIRTH RATE

			Total	Male	Female	Birth Rate per 1000
Legitimate	...	...	116	61	55	18.4
Illegitimate	...	...	5	2	3	
Total			121	63	58	
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	15.5
Stillbirths—Rate per 1000 births—24.						

DEATH RATE

			Total	Male	Female	Death Rate per 1000
Deaths	...	...	71	37	34	10.8
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	11.4

Causes of Death:

Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	11
Pulmonary Tuberculosis			...	...	...	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System					...	9
Coronary Thrombosis	...		...	...	...	8
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1
Leukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	1



Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	2
Other Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	16
Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	...	...	2
Influenza	...	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	2
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	1
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	1
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	8
Accidents	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	2
					—
Total	...	...	...	...	71

MATERNAL DEATH RATE  
Nil

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths under 1 year	...	...	...	...	7
Deaths under 4 weeks	...	...	...	...	3
Infant Mortality—per 1000 Births	...	...	...	...	57
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	60.4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	Nil
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	26.8
Causes of Death:					
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	3
Gastro-enteritis...	...	...	...	...	1
Spinal	...	...	...	...	1
Bifura	...	...	...	...	
Mental Deficiency	...	...	...	...	1
Intestinal Obstruction...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of deaths from:					
Measles	...	...	...	...	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	0

SECTION B  
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR THE AREA

*Laboratory Examinations.* These are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford.

No. of Swabs examined	...	...	...	...	9
Positive for Streptococci	...	...	...	...	3
Faeces	...	...	...	...	7
Other Examinations	...	...	...	...	14

## SECTION C

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. (i) *Water Supply.* The present scheme was completed at the end of 1936. The water is taken from the River Windrush at a point situated just below Worsham Mill in the parish of Asthall, about 4 miles from Witney. The water flows into a raw water storage tank with a capacity of 15 hours' supply where clarification and coagulation by Aluminium Sulphate takes place; from this point the clarified water gravitates to three filter beds (each 150 sq. feet) and passes to the chlorinating plant after which it is dechlorinated by Ammonia treatment. It is pumped to a covered service reservoir situated at Whitehall—at a height of 402 feet—i.e. 25 feet higher than the former water tower, and with a capacity for 3 days' storage; from the reservoir it gravitates to the town in 12 in. mains.

*Water Analysis.* Quarterly bacteriological examinations of the water have been carried out during the year at the University of Birmingham. All showed satisfactory results, there being no B. Coli. in 100 c.c.

49 houses in the district are supplied by wells. 7 samples from these have been examined during the year and 6 were found to be polluted. Arrangements have been made for a piped supply to these houses.

*Sewage Disposal.* An extension of the existing sewage works with larger settling tanks and increased filtration is urgently necessary in order to deal with the sewage of the area added by the Oxfordshire Review Order. The parish of Coggs which is at present dealt with separately by land irrigation will ultimately come into the main scheme. Also the increase in the number of houses just before the war has placed an added strain on the sewage disposal works. A scheme has been prepared for submission to the Ministry for the extension of the sewage works in Ducklington Lane and the improvement of the Dark Lane pumping station, and the new pumping main. A Ministry Inquiry is being held in 1953.

There are 246 houses in the district which have pail closets. This represents 12.2 per cent of the houses in the district. Conversions to the carriage system are being held up at present until the suggested improvements to the sewage works are completed. There were 8 conversions during the year and 18 under consideration.

*Refuse Disposal.* At present during refuse collection a great many miscellaneous refuse containers are seen outside various premises in the town. This question has been discussed by the Council and a survey is being made in order to ascertain how many premises are intent in a satisfactory dustbin with a view to action being taken.

SECTION D  
HOUSING

A detailed survey of all the houses in the Urban District will require to be made under the Housing (Rents and Repairs) Bill which is now before Parliament, and the Sanitary Inspector is making preparations for this to be carried out.

Routine inspections have been carried out during the year.

Two Demolition Orders were made during the year, and in addition the following notices were served.

	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Statutory</i>
No. of notices served requiring housing repairs ...	39	2
No. of unfit houses rendered fit as a result of notices	27	0

*Caravans.* There has been little demand for Caravan licences. There is one licensed site which is satisfactory.

SECTION E  
INSPECTION OF FOOD

Inspection of meat in the Urban District is carried out by Mr. W. S. Hetherington, Sanitary Inspector, at the Central Slaughter-house, West End, Witney, which is under the Ministry of Food.

The following are the details required by the Ministry of Health.

*Carcases Inspected and Condemned*

	<i>Cattle + Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed ... ..	1700	981	3438	2182
*Number Inspected ... ..	1702	981	3438	2222
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned ...	17	7	23	10
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... .	437	10	237	79
Percentage of no. inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis ... ..	29.6	1.84	7.54	4
<i>Tuberculosis</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned ...	9	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	61	—	—	26
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	4.1	—	—	1.21

\* Difference is due to some animals being farm killed and sent to the abattoir for inspection.



*Food Premises.* 511 visits were made to food premises by the Sanitary Inspector during the year. The Sanitary Inspector reports that few could be considered satisfactory and some were even dirty. Considerable improvement has taken place as a result of informal action and suggestion, but there are still some premises which are far from satisfactory.

No. of Food premises in area ... 89

No. of Food premises registered under Food and  
Drugs Act 1938. Sec. 14 ... 34

Meat Products ... 7

Ice-Cream ... 27

No. of Dairies registered under Milk and Dairies  
Regulations 1949 ... 4

No. of Inspections of registered Food premises 211

The following are the types of business:

Bakers ... 7

Caterers ... 19

(Cafes 5, Works Canteens 7, School Canteens 4, Hotels 4)

Public-houses ... 22

Butchers ... 7

Fishmongers (Fried Fish) ... 4

Sweets ... 10

Grocers and General Stores ... 21

Greengrocers ... 4

Meat Products Manufacturer ... 1

*Milk and Dairies.* Dairies are inspected regularly and samples are taken of the special designated milks sold.

Number of registered dairies ... 4

Number of registered distributors of milk ... 7

Number of licences issued to dealer in special  
designated milk, i.e. Tuberculin Tested,  
Pasteurised and Sterilised milk ... 9

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Samples taken</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory</i>	<i>Satis- factory</i>
Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	57	14	43
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ...	5	0	5
Pasteurised ...	7	0	7
Sterilised ...	2	0	2

SECTION F  
PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS  
DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR

Disease				No. of Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1	0	0
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	1	1	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	3	1	0
Measles	...	...	...	9	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	1	0	0

*Scarlet Fever.* 3 cases occurred all in school children. One child who was living in a caravan was admitted to hospital. The two others were isolated at home.

*Poliomyelitis.* One case occurred, in a girl of 19. The disease was contracted outside the district. It was an exceedingly mild case with very slight paralysis.

*Measles.* Although 1953 was a Measles year only 9 cases were notified in the Urban District.

*Non-notifiable Diseases.* The following non-notifiable diseases were reported from the Schools.

Chickenpox 37. German Measles 30. Mumps 1.

*School Closures.* Nil.

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0— 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1— 5	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
5—15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15—25	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
25—35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35—45	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
45—55	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
55—65	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	2	2	2	1	1	0	0	0

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937—1948

Part I of the Factories Act, 1937 is administered in all factories in the Urban District. Inspections under Part II for means of escape in case of fire have been carried out in 9 factories and 3 certificates have been issued; certificates for the remaining premises will be issued as and when the work required has been completed. Considerable alterations have been necessary at times, 8 pages of requirements were submitted to respect of one firm's premises alone.

	No. on Register	Inspec- tions	No. of Written Notices	Prosecu- tions
1. Factories to which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 apply ... ..	6	5	—	—
2. Factories to which Sec. 7 applies ... ..	51	39	9	—
3. Other Premises to which Sec. 7 applies ... ..	6	4	—	—
	—	—	—	—
Total ... ..	63	48	9	—

	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
2. <i>Defects Found</i>			
Sec. 1. Want of Cleanliness	—	—	—
Sec. 2. Overcrowding	—	—	—
Sec. 3. Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—
Sec. 4. Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—
Sec. 6. Ineffective Drainage of floors	—	—	—
Sec. 7. Sanitary conveniences			
(a) Insufficient ... ..	5	4	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act ...	8	5	1
	—	—	—
	11	8	1
	—	—	—

No. of Outworkers—Weaving Apparel 147

Employed by Witney Factories—Toys 10

Total 157



WOODSTOCK MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	157
Population:							
Census, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	1713
Mean Population, 1953 (R.G.'s estimate)	...					...	1659
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1951	...					...	461
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£7244
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...				...	...	£28 2s. 6d.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

The main industry of the town is glove making; there are five glove factories. The town is in the centre of a large agricultural district, and a considerable number of agricultural workers live in the borough.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

BIRTH RATE

	Total	Male	Female	Birth Rate per 1000
Legitimate	27	13	14	19.3
Illegitimate	5	3	2	
Corrected Birth Rate				20.6
England and Wales				15.3
Still Births. Rate per 1000 births:—				43.

DEATH RATE

	Total	Male	Female	Death Rate per 1000
Deaths	50	27	23	
Death Rate per 1000				30.01
Corrected Death Rate				21.9
England and Wales				11.4

The following were the causes of death:

Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	6
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	1
Vascular Diseases of Nervous System	...			...	...	23
Coronary Disease	...	...	...	...	...	4
Hypertension with Heart Disease	...			...	...	—
Other Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	5
Other Circulatory Disease—Pneumonia	...			...	...	1

Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Respiratory Disease			...	...	...	3.
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	—
Gastritis and Enteritis		...	...	...	...	2
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1
Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	2
						—
Total		...	...	...	...	50
						—

Mention should be made of the fact that the Registrar-General now includes deaths occurring at Hensington House—formerly the Public Assistance Institution as assignable to the Borough of Woodstock instead of transferring them to the areas from which they were admitted. This means that the Death Rate for the Borough of Woodstock is 30.01. If these deaths were excluded it would be 11.8. Using the converting factor provided by the Registrar-General the Corrected Death Rate is 21.9.

#### MATERNAL DEATH RATE

There were no deaths from puerperal causes.

#### INFANT MORTALITY

No. of deaths of Infants under 1 year	...	0
No. of deaths of Infants under 4 weeks	...	0
Infant Mortality per 1000 Births Total	...	Nil
	Legitimate	Nil
	Illegitimate	Nil
England and Wales	... ..	26.8

#### SECTION B

*Laboratory Work.* This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford. The following specimens were examined in 1952.

Faeces—No. examined	...	8
Positive for Sonne Dysentery	...	4
Other Examinations	...	6

#### SECTION C

*Water Supply.* The Borough is supplied from the Oxford City Waterworks at Swinford. The adjoining parishes of Bladon and Hensington Without have the same supply.

*Drainage and Sewerage.* The sewerage scheme is now completed. The outfall works are designed to deal with a dry weather flow of 59,000 gallons per day, and are situated close to the River Glyne.

The purification works consist of detention chambers, sedimentation tanks, percolating filters and a humus tank, the effluent being discharged into the River Glyne. It is necessary to pump the entire flow to the outfall works.

SECTION D  
HOUSING

*Council Houses.* 44 houses have been completed in the post-war building programme. There are 6 bungalows for elderly people. Owing to lack of suitable sites in the Borough a number of houses have been built in the parish of Hensington Without in the Chipping Norton Rural District. A new scheme has been prepared for 27 houses in Rectory Lane; this scheme includes 11 houses, 12 flats and 4 bungalows for elderly people.

*Unfit Houses.* There are a considerable number of unfit houses in the Borough, especially in Old Woodstock, and in the lower part of the town near the river; these will require to be dealt under the new Housing Act.

SECTION E  
FOOD INSPECTION

*Meat Inspection.* Meat sold in the Borough is inspected at the Central Slaughter-house, Witney (under the Ministry of Food), by Mr. W. Hetherington, Sanitary Inspector, Witney U.D.C.

*Food Poisoning Outbreaks.* Nil.

No. of Food Premises in Area	...	...	...	28
Hotels	...	...	...	7
Small Bars	...	...	...	2
Grocers	...	...	...	8
Confectioners	...	...	...	2
Ice-Cream	...	...	...	4
Bakers	...	...	...	2
Butchers	...	...	...	2
Fried Fish	...	...	...	1

No. registered under Food and Drugs Act 1938, Sec. 14. Nil.

No. of Dairies registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949. 1.  
Condemned food is disposed of at the refuse tip.



## SECTION F

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	No. of Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Measles ... ..	36	0	0
Pneumonia ... ..	1	0	1
Dysentery ... ..	1	0	0

*Measles.* 1953 was an epidemic year for Measles. 36 cases were notified in the Borough. No complications were reported. There were no deaths.

*Dysentery.* One case of Sonne Dysentery occurred in a clinic.

*Non-notifiable Diseases.* Nil.

*School Closures.* Nil.

### TUBERCULOSIS

There were no new cases and no deaths during the year.

### FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1948

#### *Inspections*

	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecu- tions
1. No. to which Secs. 1-4 and Sec. 6 apply ... ..	9	6	—	—
2. No. to which Sec. 7 applies	—	—	—	—
3. Other Premises ... ..	—	—	—	—
	—	—		
Total ...	9	6		

Found Remedied Referred by  
H.M. Inspector

#### *2. Defects Found*

Sec. 1. Want of Cleanliness

Sec. 2. Overcrowding

Sec. 3. Unreasonable temperature

Sec. 4. Inadequate ventilation

Sec. 6. Ineffective Drainage of floors

Sec. 7. Sanitary conveniences

(a) Insufficient ... .. — — —

(b) Unsuitable or defective ... .. — — —

(c) Not separate for sexes ... .. — — —

Total Nil Nil Nil

No. of out-workers ... .. 468

BANBURY RURAL DISTRICT

PARISHES		
Alkerton	East Adderbury	Shenington
Barford St. John and St. Michael	Epwell	Shutford
Bloxham	Hanwell	Sibford Ferris
Bodicote	Hook Norton	Sibford Gower
Bourton	Horley	South Newington
Broughton	Hornton	Steeple Aston
Claydon with Clattercote	Middle Aston	Swalcliffe
Cropredy	Milcombe	Tadmarton
Deddington	Milton	Wardington
Drayton	Mollington	West Adderbury
Duns Tew	North Aston	Wiggington
	North Newington	Wroxton
	Prescote	

SECTION A  
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	59051
Population:						
Census, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	14389
Mean Population, 1953 (R.G.'s estimate)					...	14930
Number of Inhabited Houses			...	...	...	3712
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£58890
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£229

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

The district is mainly agricultural but there is extensive ironstone quarrying in and around the parishes of Horley, Hornton and Wroxton and to a lesser extent at Bloxham and Hook Norton. Further developments in the future in this direction may be expected at Bloxham, Hook Norton and Shennington. There is also an agricultural seed factory at Adderbury, a carpet factory at Bloxham and a brewery at Hook Norton.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

BIRTH RATE			
	Total	Male	Female
No. of Births (Legitimate)	223	106	117
No. of Births (Illegitimate)	9	6	3
Totals	232	112	120
Birth Rate per 1000	15.2		
England and Wales	15.5		
Still births—per 1000 Births	30	(7 Still births)	

## DEATH RATE

	Total	Male	Female
No. of Deaths ... ..	151	81	70
Death Rate per 1000 ... ..	10.1		
Corrected Death Rate ... ..	8.48		
England and Wales ... ..	11.4		

*Causes of Death*

Cancer ... ..	19
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ... ..	22
Coronary Disease ... ..	18
Hypertension with Heart Disease ... ..	3
Other Heart Disease ... ..	32
Other Circulatory Disease ... ..	4
Influenza ... ..	9
Pneumonia ... ..	3
Bronchitis ... ..	8
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ... ..	2
Peptic Ulcer ... ..	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..	4
Enlarged Prostrate ... ..	1
Congenital Malformations ... ..	1
Other Diseases ... ..	14
Motor Accidents ... ..	1
Other Accidents ... ..	3
Pregnancy and Childbirth ... ..	1
Diabetes ... ..	1
Total ... ..	151

## MATERNAL DEATHS

No. of deaths 1

## INFANT MORTALITY

No. of deaths under 1 year ... ..	7
No. of deaths under 4 weeks ... ..	4
Infant Mortality per 1000 Births ... ..	30.1
Legitimate ... ..	27
Illegitimate ... ..	111
England and Wales ... ..	26.8



## Causes of Death

Prematurity ... ..	1
Intracranial Haemorrhage ... ..	1
Broncho-Pneumonia ... ..	1
Convulsions ... ..	1
Maternal Toxaemia ... ..	1
Pyloric Sterosis ... ..	1
Congenital Heart Disease ... ..	1

## SECTION B

## LABORATORY WORK

## Oxford Laboratory:

No. of Swabs examined ... ..	11
Positive for Haemolytic Streptococci ...	3
Faeces ... ..	3
Other Examinations ... ..	3

Many examinations have been carried out at the Horton Hospital Banbury but no details are available.

## SECTION C

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

## 1. WATER SUPPLY

Under the Banbury Corporation Act 1946 the Banbury Borough Council became the statutory water undertaking for the whole of the Banbury Rural District with the exception of five parishes. The Rural District Council remains as Water Authority for these parishes, viz., Deddington, Duns Tew, Steeple Aston, North Aston and Middle Aston.

The villages of East and West Adderbury, Bloxham, Bodicote, Milcombe and part of Milton receive water direct from the Banbury Borough Supply. This supply comes from

- (1) the River Cherwell at Grimsbury;
- (2) the Sor Brook at Bodicote.

It is treated by means of chemical settling, filtration and chlorination. The supply is constant and sufficient. 71 samples were taken for chemical and bacteriological examination during the year, all being reported as satisfactory and suitable for a public supply.

Other villages at present have their own sources of water supply, although they are in the Borough Statutory Area.

## A. BOROUGH OF BANBURY STATUTORY AREA

*Adderbury East and West.* Banbury Borough Supply. Piped. Satisfactory.

*Alkerton.* There is a public pump where the water supply is of satisfactory quality. A piped supply is desirable.

*Barford St. John and St. Michael.* Wells, some of which are polluted. A public piped supply is desirable.

*Bloxham.* Banbury Borough Supply. Piped. Satisfactory.

*Bodicote.* Banbury Borough Supply. Piped. Satisfactory.

*Bourton.* There is a piped supply from a ram for part of the village. The system is unsatisfactory and usually troublesome in the summer months. There are also wells in the lower part of the village which are of doubtful quality.

*Broughton.* Wells entirely which have been short in dry summer.

*Claydon.* Position unsatisfactory. Public and private wells, many being polluted. Water has had to be carted in dry periods. Some of the inhabitants have to fetch water half a mile. A well at the Council Houses with automatic pumping is satisfactory.

*Cropredy.* Part of this village is supplied from a spring owned by Brasenose College, Oxford—this is a piped supply. There are also private wells, several of which are known to be polluted. The piped supply is intermittent and unsatisfactory.

*Drayton.* Several private and public wells. A recently completed Council Housing Estate has a piped supply.

*Epwell.* Wells and springs of satisfactory quality and quantity. No piped supply.

*Hanwell.* There is a piped supply which is vested in the Hanwell Estate; it consists of a well and a service reservoir. There are also wells and springs.

*Hook Norton.* The position in this large village (population 1200) is most unsatisfactory. There are wells and a public spring, but practically all the sources in the village are polluted and water has been carted to the village since 1936. A piped supply from a public spring to the Council Houses is of satisfactory quality.

*Horley.* A recently completed Council housing estate and several street stand-pipes are supplied from a privately owned source. The system is unsatisfactory.

*Hornton.* There is a piped supply from a spring at Ragnal Bottom. The water is pumped to a reservoir of one day's storage capacity. Satisfactory in quality.



*Milcombe.* Banbury Borough Supply. Satisfactory.

*Milton.* The public supply is from Banbury Borough, but a considerable number of the houses are still supplied by wells.

*Mollington.* There is a public well which is polluted and a spring which is satisfactory. There are also several private wells.

*North Newington.* There is a public well augmented by a private well.

*South Newington.* There are 56 wells in the village, some of which are known to be polluted.

*Shenington.* Public supply from a spring with a raising plant consisting of a wind pump and an auxiliary petrol engine; there is a service reservoir of three days' capacity. Piped, fairly satisfactory.

*Shutford.* Wells and springs.

*Sibford Ferris and Sibford Gower.* Public piped supply from a spring, pumped automatically. Most of the houses are connected. Satisfactory.

*Swalcliffe.* Wells, insufficient in summer. Part of the village has a piped supply from a private source.

*Tadmarton.* Wells.

*Wardington.* Satisfactory since recent improvements.

*Wiggington.* Public piped supply from a spring which is satisfactory.

*Wroxton.* Public and private wells, mostly polluted.

## B. BANBURY R.D.C. AREA

Although the Banbury Rural District Council is the Water Authority for the whole of the Rural District, it is the water undertaking for only the five southern parishes of the area, viz. *Deddington, Duns Tew, North Aston, Middle Aston, Steeple Aston*. Of these only *Deddington* and *Duns Tew* have a piped water supply.

*North Aston* principally derives its water from private wells and springs though the Estate there does supply water to its own property.

*Middle Aston* is owned practically by one estate which supplies water to its own property.

*Steeple Aston* depends upon private wells and springs with the exception of the Council's housing estate which comprises 28 houses. This estate is supplied by the Council from a well 50 feet deep to which automatic pumping is installed. The supply has not failed since it was put into operation some 15 years ago.

*Deddington and Duns Tew*, including *Clifton* and *Hempton* are supplied from springs within the parish of *Duns Tew* which yield 93,000



gallons per day in winter and some 46,500 gallons per day in summer, which is not quite sufficient. The water is collected in an underground reservoir and pumped direct into the mains by a pair of fully automatic electrical centrifugal pumps. The water is not treated, but is examined bacteriologically frequently and has been found to be satisfactory in quality.

### C. GENERAL

The water supplies in the district may therefore be divided into the following categories:

1. Villages with a piped supply which is satisfactory and sufficient: Adderbury East and West, Bloxham, Bodicote, Deddington, Hornton, Shennington, Sibford Ferris, Sibford Gower, Wardington and Wiggington.

2. Villages in which there is no satisfactory piped supply and a public supply is desirable: Alkerton, Barford St. John and St. Michael, Bourton, Broughton, Claydon, Cropredy, Drayton, Epwell, Hanwell, Hook Norton, Horley, Milton, Mollington, Middle Aston, North Aston, North and South Newington, Shutford, Steeple Aston, Swalcliffe and Wroxton.

It is anticipated that a comprehensive scheme to supply all the above villages with piped water from the Borough of Banbury will be commenced in 1954. The estimated cost is £278,900.

*Water Analysis.* 104 samples have been submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination during the year.

### 2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

At present there are public sewers with sewage disposal work in the following parishes:

East and West Adderbury, Bloxham, Bodicote, Steeple Aston, Wardington, Deddington and Great Bourton.

The following is an outline of the position in each parish:

*Adderbury.* Sewered, but evidence of considerable infiltration from the area of Adderbury West. Works require modernizing. Investigations in progress.

*Alkerton.* No sewers.

*Aston, Middle.* No sewers.

*Aston, North.* No sewers.

*Aston, Steeple.* Southern portion sewered, requires extension at a later date. The disposal works are being extended to deal with the new housing site.

*Barfords.* No sewers.

*Bloxham.* Partly sewered. The new scheme is now almost completed.

*Bodicote.* Sewered. A considerable amount of surface water is also allowed into sewers making purification difficult at times.

*Bourtons.* Partly sewered to irrigation areas. Will need modernizing when public water supply becomes available.

*Broughton.* No sewers.

*Claydon with Clattercote.* No sewers.

*Cropredy.* Partly sewered. New scheme is ready for submission to the Ministry.

*Clifton.* Scheme in course of preparation.

*Deddington.* Sewered, but as with Bodicote, the Disposal Works have to deal with storm water. A storm water tank is required and as building progresses in the village the works will require enlargement.

*Drayton.* No sewers.

*Duns Tew.* No sewers, but a public water supply is available.

*Epwell.* No sewers.

*Hanwell.* No sewers.

*Hempton.* No sewers, but a public water supply is available.

*Hook Norton.* Small part of village sewered to unsatisfactory septic tanks. This village constitutes a major problem from the point of the provision of services.

*Horley.* Scheme approved by the Ministry.

*Hornton.* No proper sewers. A scheme is urgently required because a public water supply is available and development of the village is likely to be restricted.

*Milcombe.* Scheme approved, but in abeyance until water supply is available in 1954.

*Milton.* No sewers, but a public water supply is available.

*Mollington.* No sewers.

*Newington, North.* No sewers.

*Newington, South.* No sewers.

*Shenington.* No sewers. A public water supply is available and it is recommended that a scheme be prepared (to include Alkerton) as soon as circumstances permit.

*Shutford.* No sewers.

*Sibfords.* Scheme prepared and submitted for approval.

*Swalcliffe.* No sewers.

*Tadmarton.* No sewers.

*Wardington.* More or less completely sewered but system needs modernizing. The provision of a settling tank at the works is urgently required.

*Wiggington.* No sewers but a public water supply is available.

*Wroxton.* No sewers.

## SECTION D

## HOUSING

*New Houses.* During the year 88 new houses have been completed by the council and 28 by private enterprise.

*Hutted Camps.* There are three hutted camps in the district—Barford (including Bloxham) 54 and Duns Tew 7. 12 huts were demolished during the year.

*Housing Act 1936 Sec. 11.* 18 houses were represented as unfit for habitation during the year with a view to being dealt with under Housing Act 1936 Sec. 11.

*Rural Housing Survey.* The rural housing survey was completed in 1951. Of 3026 houses in the rural district 827 are in Class 4, unfit for habitation. The villages of Bloxham, Deddington, Hook Norton and Wardington show the highest figures. In several villages, e.g., Drayton, Milcombe, Milton and South Newington more than half of the existing houses are in Class 4. This presents a definite housing problem for the rural district and one which will not be capable of solution for some considerable time. An effort is made to deal with houses mentioned as they fall vacant, but it appears it will be some time until the Ministry will permit housing programmes to re-house tenants in unfit houses.

The following table gives the details:

			1	2	3	4	Total
Adderbury, East	...		45	38	34	25	142
Adderbury, West	...		6	11	23	11	51
Alkerton	...	...	1	2	9	10	22
Aston, Middle	...	...	4	2	10	12	28
Aston, North	...	...	5	0	4	4	13
Aston, Steeple	...	...	25	13	30	24	92
Barford St. John	...	...	3	2	9	0	14
Barford St. Michael	...		15	13	28	4	60
Bloxham	...	...	51	20	68	107	246
Bodicote	...	...	13	24	28	46	111
Bourton, Little	...	...	2	8	11	4	25
Bourton, Great	...	...	15	14	48	21	98
Broughton	...	...	0	9	2	19	30
Claydon, Clattercote and							
Prescote	...	...	20	17	16	10	63
Cropredy	...	...	32	79	26	2	139
Deddington	...	...	76	64	98	78	316
Drayton	...	...	2	14	7	28	51
Duns Tew	...	...	15	18	25	4	62
Epwell	...	...	3	6	19	14	42



			1	2	3	4	Total
Hanwell	...	...	9	14	25	1	49
Hook Norton	...	...	93	107	82	53	335
Horley	...	...	10	9	19	16	54
Hornton	...	...	0	9	14	10	33
Milcombe	...	...	2	10	1	28	41
Milton	...	...	0	6	5	26	37
Mollington	...	...	5	19	27	2	53
Newington, North	...	...	9	3	8	37	57
Newington, South	...	...	1	11	15	5	32
Shenington	...	...	13	13	16	8	50
Shutford	...	...	1	3	17	40	61
Sibford Ferris	...	...	9	8	24	1	42
Sibford Gower	...	...	22	16	18	1	57
Swalcliffe	...	...	15	10	14	22	61
Tadmarton	...	...	19	5	10	29	63
Wardington	...	...	28	20	39	58	145
Wiggington	...	...	17	8	18	1	44
Wroxton	...	...	14	34	43	10	101
Balscote	...	...	5	3	8	18	34
Clifton	...	...	1	4	12	19	36
Hempton	...	...	3	2	12	19	36
			609	668	922	827	3026

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The Council have given publicity to their policy to encourage owners of private houses in the district to carry out improvements to their property with the assistance of Grants made under the Housing Act, 1949. During the year the position was as follows:

Applications received	...	...	...	15
„ refused	...	...	...	3
„ approved	...	...	...	10
Under consideration	...	...	...	1
Withdrawn	...	...	...	1
Number completed	...	...	...	Nil

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

*Meat Inspection.* Slaughtering for the area is carried out at the Central Slaughter House, Swan Close Road, Banbury, and the meat is inspected by Mr. F. Appleyard, Chief Sanitary Inspector, Borough of Banbury and his staff. Details are given in the Annual Report for the Borough of Banbury.

*Food and Drugs Act 1938. Sec. 15.* By-laws under this section have been adopted by the Council. Visits to food premises are carried out by the Sanitary Inspector to ensure that they are complied with.

*Food Poisoning.* No cases have been notified during the year.

- |    |  |       |     |     |     |
|----|--|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. | No. of food premises in area                   | ...   | ... | ... | 77  |
|    | Butchers (with Co-op dept. in larger villages) | ...   |     |     | 10  |
|    | Grocers  | ...   | ... | ... | 38  |
|    | General village stores                         | ...   | ... | ... | 17  |
|    | Bakers   | ...   | ... | ... | 11  |
| 2. | Under Section 14. Food and Drugs Act 1938      | Total |     |     | 34  |
|    | For manufacture and sale of sausages           | ...   | ... |     | 5   |
|    | For sale of pre-packed ice cream               | ...   | ... |     | 29  |
|    | Dairies  | ...   | ... | ... | Nil |
3. 59 Inspections and visits were made to food premises including those registered during the year. The general conditions prevailing are satisfactory having due regard to the fact that mains water and sewers are not available in some cases. In the larger villages several shop owners have achieved a high standard of cleanliness and efficient layout within their premises.
4. Generally it has been found that the smaller trader welcomes advice and assistance regarding the improved handling and storage of food supplies. He does, in fact, call on the services of the authority, in cases that shows he is well aware that collaboration is producing beneficial returns to all concerned, himself and the consumer.
5. A relatively small amount of food is handled yearly, but adequate means are at the disposal of the Authority for its satisfactory disposal.
6. There was no special cause to examine stocks or food consignments during the year but the sum total and weights of food which was voluntarily surrendered and/or examined is given below:
- |                                 |     |     |          |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|----------|
| Meat (Imported and Home killed) | ... | ... | 136 lbs. |
| Canned foods (Meat, Milk, etc.) | ... | ... | 46 lbs.  |

SECTION F  
PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR					No. of Deaths
		No. of Cases	Removed to Hospital		
Scarlet Fever	...	17	5		0
Whooping Cough	...	45	0		0
Measles	...	258	0		0
Pneumonia	...	8	0		1
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	...	3	3		0
Erysipelas	...	3	0		0
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	2	2		0

*Scarlet Fever.* 17 cases occurred during the year. 14 cases occurred in school children, 2 in children under school age and one in an adult. Of the 14 school children, 3 were in boarding schools in the district. Cases occurred in the following parishes: Drayton 1, Wiggington 3, Bloxham 2, Sibford Ferris 2, Cropredy 3, Hook Norton 2, Wardington 1, Steeple Aston 1, Wroxton 2.

5 cases were removed to hospital and 12 isolated at home.

*Poliomyelitis.* 3 cases occurred—two were in school children and one a child under school age. All were mild cases with slight paralysis and were treated at the Slade Hospital, Oxford. Cases occurred in the following parishes: North Newington, Deddington and Bodicote.

*Measles.* 1953 was an epidemic year for Measles. 258 cases occurred; few complications were reported and there were no deaths.

*Whooping Cough.* 45 cases were notified; no complications were reported.

Immunization is now available under the County Council Scheme through the local medical practitioners.

*Non-notifiable Diseases.* The following non-notifiable diseases have been reported from the Schools.

Mumps: Sibford Gower 1.

Chickenpox: Deddington 3.

German Measles: North Newington 2. Deddington 1.

Impetigo: North Newington 1.

Influenza: Duns Tew 8.

*School Closures:* Hornton for Measles.

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary Male	Pulmonary Female	Non-Pulmonary Male	Non-Pulmonary Female	Pulmonary Male	Pulmonary Female	Non-Pulmonary Male	Non-Pulmonary Female
0— 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1— 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5—15	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
15—25	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
25—35	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
35—45	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
45—55	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
55—65	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
65—	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	5	3	0	1	0	0	0	0



FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948

	No. on Register	Inspection tions	Written Notices	Prosecu- tions
1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES				
1. Factories to which Secs. 1-4 and Sec. 6 apply ... ..	53	3	—	—
2. Factories in which Sec. 7 applies ... ..	7	8	—	—
3. Other Premises ... ..	15	5	—	—
	—	—		
Total ... ..	75	16		

<i>Defects found</i>				Number of Defects	
				Found	Remedied
Want of Cleanliness ... ..	...	...	...		
Want of Ventilation ... ..	...	...	...		
Overcrowding ... ..	...	...	...		
Other Nuisances ... ..	...	...	...		
Sanitary Accommodation:					
Insufficient ... ..	...	...	...	1	1
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	...	...	...		
Not separate for sexes			...		
No. of outworkers ... ..	...	2			

CHIPPING NORTON RURAL DISTRICT

PARISHES

Ascot-u-Wychwood	Great Tew	Salford
Blenheim Park	Hensington Without	Sarsden
Bruern	Heythrop	Sandford St. Martin
Chadlington	Idbury	Shipton-u-Wychwood
Charlbury	Kiddington with	Shorthampton or Chilson
Chastleton	Asterleigh	Spelsbury
Churchill	Kingham	Steeple Barton
Combe	Leafield	Stonesfield
Cornwell	Little Tew	Swerford
Enstone	Lyneham	Tackley
Fawler	Milton-u-Wychwood	Westcot Barton
Fifield	Over Norton	Wootton
Finstock	Rollright	Worton
Glympton	Rousham	Wychwood

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	87754
Population:							
Census, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	15505
Mean Population, 1953 (R.G.'s estimate)						...	16180
Number of Inhabited Houses			...	...	...	...	3978
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£63748
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£240

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

The rural district is purely agricultural with a small number of glove factories, a flour mill (at Shipton-under-Wychwood), two gas works, an agricultural engineering works (at Kingham) and two saw mills. The number of farms, factories, etc., in the district is as follows:

Farms	...	...	...	...	...	...	284
Glove Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other small factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Saw Mills	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Mansions	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	4103
Houses with shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	90

## BIRTH RATE

			<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
No. of Births	...	...	246	130	116
Legitimate	...	...	240	126	114
Illegitimate		...	6	4	2
Birth Rate per 1000	...	...	...	15.2	
England and Wales	...	...	...	15.5	
Still Births—Rate per 1000	...	...	...	20	

## DEATH RATE

			<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
No. of Deaths	...	...	145	65	80
Death Rate per 1000	...	...	...	8.9	
Corrected Death Rate		...	...	7.7	
England and Wales	...	...	...	11.4	

*Causes of Death:*

Cancer	...	...	...	...	21
Leukaemia	...	...	...	...	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System				...	25
Coronary Disease	...	...	...	...	19
Hypertension with Heart Disease	...			...	4
Other Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	28
Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	9
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	4
Other Respiratory Disease	...	...	...	...	1
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	1
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	10
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	...	3
Other Accidents	...	...	...	...	7
					—
Total	...	...	...	...	145
					—

## INFANT MORTALITY

No. of Deaths under 1 year	...	...	...	...	0
No. of Deaths under 4 weeks	...	...	...	...	0
Total Infant Mortality	...	...	...	...	Nil
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	Nil
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	Nil
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	26.8

*Causes of Death:*

No Deaths.



SECTION B

*Laboratory Work.* This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford

No. of Swabs examined	...	...	...	43
Positive for Haemolytic Streptococci			...	10
Faeces	...	...	...	27
Other Examinations	...	...	...	33

SECTION C

WATER SUPPLY

The rise in consumption, both domestic and agricultural, continues and in some parishes where formerly the supplies were adequate, there is not now sufficient for modern demands.

Some progress has been made during the past few years but there are still many villages with supplies which are insufficient or impure. As there seems to be no suitable sources of supply in the majority of cases, the only solution appears to be an area scheme.

The following is an outline of the position in each parish.

*Ascot-under-Wychwood.* The main part of the village has a piped supply from a spring near the Rectory. Recently the mains have been improved; the quality is satisfactory.

A few houses along the Mill Lane obtain water from stand-pipes fed from other springs.

*Blenheim.* Private piped supply from Fair Rosamund's Well. Satisfactory after chlorination.

*Bruern.* Private supply from Bruern Abbey.

*Chadlington.* This village has a piped supply. The main source is a spring at Partridge Covert and is of excellent quality. The mains are small and the houses at the higher levels are short at certain times of the day. A small system supplying Brook End is contaminated. Owing to the increased number of Council houses it is essential that something should be done, as the present mains are small. A scheme has been approved by the Ministry.

*Charlbury.* About 110 of the houses at the eastern end of the town obtain water from the Fowler Scheme which was connected to the Charlbury mains several years ago. The remainder of the town has a piped supply from springs in oolite; the water is pumped to a reservoir of 40,000 gallons capacity. In dry season these springs are not sufficient and the supply has to be augmented from Fowler.

*Chastleton.* The North Cotswold Rural District Council have extended their mains to supply houses at Brook End; their high level main is completed and they now supply the village of Chastleton as well.

*Chilson.* There is an excellent spring in the village but owing to its position it will not reach some of the houses; three or four houses on Chilson Hill are without water every summer.

*Churchill.* The supply to the village is insufficient and liable to contamination which cannot be stopped owing to the position of the springs. There are two sources, Mayswell and Conduit Farm supplying parts of the village.

Many sources have been investigated over the past 20 years, but all have proved insufficient or contaminated. The possibilities are (1) an area scheme; (2) a supply from the Borough of Chipping Norton; (3) a supply from Partridge Covert springs at Chadlington. The latter would be very costly.

There was an acute shortage in the autumn of 1952. The opinion of a geologist was obtained and a borehole was sunk off Bessborough Lane, but no water was found.

*Combe.* Supplied by the Fawler Scheme.

*Cornbury Park.* Cornbury Park Estate—private supply.

*Cornwell.* Good piped system with water laid on to all the houses. Private supply from springs.

*Enstone.* This parish is poorly supplied. At *Neat Enstone* there is a private main system supplying several houses and a bore serves the new Council Houses. Other houses in the village have private wells. There is also a public stand-pipe and a small spring supply to the village.

At *Church Enstone* there are private wells and one public standpipe. This stand-pipe was fixed two or three years ago and is fed from a private system. A bore was sunk late in 1950 and although it yielded sufficient to supply Neat Enstone and Church Enstone the margin was not sufficient to ensure a satisfactory supply in dry periods.

A further pumping test made in the autumn of 1952 indicated that there would be enough water to supply Church Enstone and Neat Enstone. A scheme is being prepared.

*Radford.* The few houses in this hamlet obtain water from a private source.

*Clevely.* Most of the houses have piped supplies from a private source.

*Gaginwell.* The huts are supplied from the R.A.F. main.

*Lidstone.* There is a small piped scheme, privately owned, by which water is raised by a water wheel to two farms and a public stand-pipe.

*Fawler.* This village together with Finstock, Stonesfield, Combe and part of Charlbury has a piped supply. Springs in the old limestone workings near the River Evenlode are collected and the water pumped to a 40,000 gallon reservoir at Finstock Heath from which 3 in. mains



are laid to the villages. Many houses are supplied by this scheme and in dry weather the consumption is over 50,000 gallons per day. The normal consumption is 35,000 gallons. Ten years ago it was 15,000, but since then several new houses and about 120 houses in Charlbury have been added.

*Finstock.* Fawler Scheme.

*Fifield.* Piped supply which is sufficient.

*Glympton.* Private supply from a bore. Water has been laid into each house.

*Great Tew.* This village is badly supplied. Most of the houses have wells, but there is need for a proper piped supply. Bores in the vicinity have led to poor results. Springs in the grounds of Great Tew House supply a stand-pipe in the village. There is a bore at the Council houses.

*Hensington Without.* Piped supply from Oxford.

*Heythrop.* Heythrop College has its own water supply. This village has a small private system which has now been taken over by the Council.

*Idbury.* Arrangements are being made with the North Cotswold R.D.C. to supply this village from Westcot. Approval of the Ministry has been obtained and the scheme will be carried out in 1954.

*Kiddington.* There is a private supply which is at present not altogether satisfactory.

*Kingham.* Public supply from a deep bore recently completed.

*Leafield.* This parish has a good piped supply from spring near Shipton. Water is raised to a 25,000 gallon reservoir.

*Little Tew.* This village has wells and a small private piped supply. There has been no serious shortage but a good public supply is desirable.

*Lyneham.* This village has a piped supply, but the springs are liable to contamination when there is heavy rain. The mains have recently been renewed.

*Milton-under-Wychwood.* Piped supply from springs at Springhill and High Lodge. A new reservoir has been constructed and new mains have been laid.

*Over Norton.* Of recent years this village has been supplied by the Borough of Chipping Norton. A main has recently been laid to the hamlet of Chapel House.

*Rollright.* This village is poorly supplied. There are some private piped supplies but many houses obtain water from shallow wells and a spring. It was hoped to use the latter for a village supply but it was found to be liable to periodic contamination.

Two bores have recently been sunk but in neither case was there sufficient water to supply the village.



*Rousham.* Private piped supply from Rousham Park. There is also a good well in the village but a proper mains supply is desirable.

*Salford.* There is a piped supply but the mains are small and the water is not of the desired quality. A bore was sunk to the north of the village. The water was found to be hard and contains Iron. Approval was obtained from the Ministry and a scheme is being prepared.

*Sandford St. Martin.* There are private piped supplies and a public stand-pipe.

Some of the houses in the hamlet of Ledwell have private piped supplies and there is a public well. Main schemes are desirable in both places.

*Sarsden.* Most of the houses are fairly well supplied; they are so scattered that a main scheme would be costly.

*Shipton-under-Wychwood.* This village has a piped system. The northern part has a gravity supply from springs and the southern part a pumping system.

For the main village supply a spring runs to a collecting tank. There is no reservoir. The quality of the water is not always satisfactory.

Water for the southern part of the parish comes from a spring and is conveyed to a pump well into which the overflow from the main village is also connected.

The water runs to a 6000 gallon reservoir; the quality is not always good.

*Spelsbury.* A scheme for a mains supply from a line was approved by the Ministry and commenced in 1953. It should be completed early in 1954.

At *Taston* there is an excellent private spring which supplies part of the hamlet.

*Dean* is fairly well supplied from private sources.

*Stonesfield.* Supplied from Fawler Scheme.

*Steeple Barton and Westcote Barton.* Water is pumped from a 160 feet bore to a 22,000 gallon reservoir. The water is very hard and with the increased consumption due to the fact that the sewage scheme is now available some anxiety is felt as to its sufficiency.

*Swerford.* There are two piped supplies both of which are insufficient. A proper main supply is essential.

Although a bore has been sunk the quality of the water was unsatisfactory and the scheme had to be abandoned.

*Tackley.* A bore has been sunk recently and it is hoped that this will provide a supply for the village. The Ministry Inquiry has been held and approval obtained.

*Wootton.* The water supply problem in this village is most urgent. A scheme for supplying the village from the Oxford City mains has been approved by the Ministry. Work will shortly be commenced.

*Worton.* The houses in the village are reasonably supplied from wells and springs but a main supply would be desirable.

#### WATER SUPPLY—GENERAL

It has been suggested that the following villages should be supplied from the City of Oxford scheme:

Ascot-under-Wychwood, Charlbury, Chilson, Chadlington, Churchill, Enstone, Great Tew, Heythrop, Kiddington, Kingham, Lyneham, Little Tew, Milton, Over Norton, Rollright, Rousham, Salford, Sandford St. Martin, Shipton, Swerford, Spelsbury, Tackley, Wootton.

*Water Examinations.* 60 specimens have been examined bacteriologically during 1953 and classified as follows:

		<i>Public Supplies</i>	<i>Private Supplies</i>	<i>Total</i>
Class 1	...	16	7	23
Class 2	...	2	4	6
Class 3	...	3	4	7
Class 4	...	7	17	24
		—	—	—
Total	...	28	32	60

*Drainage and Sewerage.* The following villages are wholly sewered and are equipped with sewage disposal works:—

Charlbury, Fifield, Milton-under-Wychwood, Shipton-under-Wychwood, Middle Barton.

Parts of the following parishes are sewered with a small sewage disposal works in each case:—

Ascot-under-Wychwood, Chadlington, Chilson, Combe, Idbury, Salford, Churchill and Kingham.

A private sewage scheme has been carried out in the village of Glympton. Work is at present being carried out in connection with the sewage scheme for Hensington Without, now forms part of the Borough of Woodstock scheme.

A scheme has been carried out for Steeple Barton; schemes are in course of preparation in the cases of Chadlington, Churchill, Ascot-under-Wychwood, Finstock, Leafield, Combe and Stonesfield.

New sewage schemes are required at Tackley, Enstone, Rollright, Great and Little Tew, Spelsbury, Wootton. A scheme has been approved for Over Norton.

Schemes are in course of preparation for Chadlington and Churchill.

SECTION D  
HOUSING

*New Houses.* 60 Council Houses were completed in 1953 and 30 by private enterprise.

*Unfit Houses.* A complete housing survey of the district of all houses with a rateable value of over £20 has been carried out by the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. S. P. Bendle.

This survey revealed that there are 3911 houses in the district classified as follows:

Class 1	...	...	762	19.5%
Class 2	...	...	1467	37.5%
Class 3	...	...	1282	32.7%
Class 4	...	...	400	10.2%
				<hr/>
Total	...		3911	99.9%
				<hr/>

2 Houses were dealt with under Housing Act 1936, Section 11, during the year.

SECTION E  
FOOD INSPECTION

*Meat Inspection.* Meat Inspection is carried out at the Ministry of Food slaughterhouse at Chipping Norton by Mr. R. V. Joshua, Additional Sanitary Inspector in conjunction with the Sanitary Inspector of the Borough of Chipping Norton. Details are given in the Chipping Norton Borough report.

1. No. of Food Premises in the Area. 79.

Ice-Cream	...	...	...	...	...	33
Cafés, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	17
Preserved Food	...	...	...	...	...	8
Fish Frying	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	14

2. No. of Food Premises registered under Food and Drugs Act 1938. Sec. 14.

Ice-Cream	...	...	...	...	...	33
Preserved Food	...	...	...	...	...	8

No. of Dairies registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949. ... .. 3

3. No. of Inspections of Food Premises ... .. 168

4. There have been no new structural activities during the year.



5. Condemned food is buried at the refuse dump or returned through normal trade channels.

6. There have been no special examination, only odd tins being condemned. The total weight condemned was 339 lbs.

*Food and Drugs Act 1938. Sec. 15.* By-laws have been adopted by the Council and periodic inspections are made by the Sanitary Inspector to ensure that they are complied with.

*Food Poisoning.* One case occurred of Salmonella Typhimurium infection in a young woman of 22. Her mother who cooked the food was found to be a carrier.

SECTION F  
PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS  
DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES						
				No. Notified	No. admitted to Hospital	No. of Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	...	3	0	0	
Whooping Cough	...	...	73	0	0	
Measles	...	...	211	0	0	
Pneumonia	...	...	1	0	5	
Food Poisoning	...	...	1	0	0	
Poliomyelitis	...	...	2	2	0	
Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	2	2	0	
Erysipelas	...	...	1	1	0	

*Scarlet Fever.* Only three cases occurred—all of them in children of school age. All were isolated at home.

*Measles.* During the Measles outbreak in 1953, 211 cases were notified. There were few complications and no deaths.

*Poliomyelitis.* Two paralytic cases occurred. Both were removed to hospital. One occurred in a man of 35, the other in a boy, age 14.

*Meningococcal Meningitis.* 2 cases occurred. Both were in children under 2, who were treated in hospital.

*Food Poisoning.* One case (already reported in Section E).

*Non-notifiable Diseases.* The following non-notifiable diseases were reported from the schools. German Measles 18. Mumps 28. Conjunctivitis 6. Impetigo 3.

*School Closures.* Nil.

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary Male	Pulmonary Female	Non-Pulmonary Male	Non-Pulmonary Female	Pulmonary Male	Pulmonary Female	Non-Pulmonary Male	Non-Pulmonary Female
— 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1— 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5—15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15—25	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
25—35	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
35—45	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45—55	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
55—65	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
65—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	3	1	2	2	0	0	0	0

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948

1. *Inspections*

1. Factories to which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 apply ... ..	7	18	0	0
2. Factories to which Sec. 7 applies ... ..	30	58	1	0
3. Other Premises to which Sec. 7 applies ... ..	7	28	0	0
Total	44	104	1	0

2. *Defects Found*

Sec. 1. Want of Cleanliness	1	1	—
Sec. 2. Overcrowding	—	—	—
Sec. 3. Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—
Sec. 4. Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—
Sec. 6. Ineffective Drainage of floors	—	—	—
Sec. 7. Sanitary conveniences	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act ...	1	1	—
No of outworkers ... ..	153	—	—

WITNEY RURAL DISTRICT

PARISHES

Alvescot	Ducklington	Little Faringdon
Asthall	Eynsham	Minster Lovell
Aston Bampton	Filkins	North Leigh
Bampton	Freeland	Northmoor
Black Bourton	Fulbrook	Ramsden
Bladon	Grafton with Radcot	Shifford
Brize Norton	Hailey	Shilton
Broadwell	Handborough	South Leigh
Broughton Poggs	Hardwick with Yelford	Standlake
Burford	Holwell	Stanton Harcourt
Cassington	Kelmscott	Swinbrook & Widford
Clanfield	Kencott	Taynton
Crawley	Langford	Upton and Signet
Curbridge	Lew	Westwell

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	84938
Population:							
Census, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	21230
Mean Population, 1953 (R.G.'s estimate)						...	26520
Number of Inhabited Houses				...	...	...	6155
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£97772
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£393

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

The district is almost entirely agricultural—there are 350 farms and it is estimated that 90 per cent of the total area is agricultural. There are blanket factories at Asthall, Crawley and Hailey. There is a motor engineering works at Curbridge; there are also laundries at Bampton, Aston and Burford and an agricultural engineering works at Clanfield.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTH RATE

				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of Births	...	...	...	265	232	497
Legitimate	...	...	...	251	217	468
Illegitimate	...	...	...	14	15	29
Birth Rate per 1000	...	...	...	...	18.7	
Corrected Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	22.0	
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	15.5	
Still births — 18 per 1000						



## DEATH RATE

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of Deaths ... ..	83	83	166
Death Rate per 1000 ... ..	...	6.3	
Corrected Death Rate ... ..	...	6.8	
England and Wales ... ..	...	11.4	

*Causes of Death:*

Tuberculosis Respiratory ... ..	...	...	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	...	...	1
Other Infective Diseases ... ..	...	...	1
Cancer ... ..	...	...	25
Diabetes ... ..	...	...	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ... ..	...	...	25
Coronary Disease ... ..	...	...	21
Hypertension with Heart Disease ... ..	...	...	5
Other Heart Disease ... ..	...	...	35
Other Circulatory Disease ... ..	...	...	7
Influenza ... ..	...	...	2
Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	3
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	6
Other Respiratory Disease ... ..	...	...	2
Nephritis ... ..	...	...	3
Enlarged Prostate ... ..	...	...	1
Congenital Malformations ... ..	...	...	4
Other Diseases ... ..	...	...	14
Motor Accidents ... ..	...	...	5
Other Accidents ... ..	...	...	3
Suicide ... ..	...	...	1
Total ... ..	...	...	166

## MATERNAL DEATHS

Nil

## INFANT MORTALITY

No. of Deaths under 1 year ... ..	...	...	12
No. of Deaths under 4 weeks ... ..	...	...	9
Infant Mortality per 1000 Births ... ..	...	...	24.2
Legitimate ... ..	...	...	23
Illegitimate ... ..	...	...	35
England and Wales ... ..	...	...	26.8

*Causes of Death:*

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	6
Broncho-pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Abnormality	...	...	...	...	...	2
Atalectasis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Perforation of Intestine	...	...	...	...	...	1

Of these 12 deaths 9 were children of members of the U.S. Air Force.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR THE AREA

*Laboratory Work.* This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford.

No. Swabs examined	...	...	...	...	41
Positive for Haemolytic Streptococci	...	...	...	...	14
Faeces	...	...	...	...	40
Positive for Shigella Sonnei	...	...	...	...	1
Positive for Salmonella Orienburg	...	...	...	...	1
Other Examinations	...	...	...	...	70

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

*Water Supply.* About half of the rural district is supplied from the Witney Urban District Waterworks at Worsham (from the River Windrush). This provides a piped supply for the following parishes.

Alvescot	Crawley	Minster Lovell
Asthalleigh	Curbridge	North Leigh
Aston Bampton	Freeland	Ramsden
Bampton	Hailey	Shilton
Black Bourton	Handborough	South Leigh
Brize Norton	Lew	

AREA OUTSIDE WITNEY SCHEME

*Asthall.* *Asthalleigh*, a part of Asthall has a supply.

The remainder of the parish is supplied by wells. A public supply is required.

*Bladon.* Supplied by Oxford City by a branch main from Woodstock.

*Broadwell.* Supplied by wells, which are shallow and liable to pollution. In the summer owing to shortage water has had to be carted. A public supply is urgently required.

*Broughton Poggs.* Adjacent to and now part of Filkins. The wells show pollution and a public supply is required.

*Burford.* Has a piped supply from a spring near Taynton, from which water is pumped to a reservoir of 120,000 gallons capacity. There has been shortage in the summer when there are large numbers of visitors. It is possible, that if the supply has to be increased, the question of a supply from the Witney Waterworks may have to be considered.

*Cassington.* Supplied by Oxford City.

*Clanfield.* Supplied by wells in gravel, which are liable to pollution. The Council houses are supplied by a bore.

*Ducklington.* There is now a supply from Witney for domestic purposes only.

*Eynsham.* Piped public supply from a well in gravel pumped to a water tower. It is adequate and satisfactory and is augmented by a supply from Oxford City.

*Filkins.* The present supply is from a borehole which supplies a few houses and six stand-pipes in the village. The need for water is urgent as a sewage plant has been installed and there are a large number of houses awaiting conversion to water carriage system.

*Fulbrook.* Supplied from Burford. There are several stand-pipes in the village.

*Grafton with Radcot.* Supplied by wells.

*Hardwick with Yelford.* The existing wells are liable to pollution from cesspools and farm premises.

*Holwell.* There is now a piped supply from Broadwell Grove.

*Kelmscott.* Wells liable to pollution. There is a private supply for part of the village.

*Kencot.* Many of the wells are grossly polluted. There has been shortage and water has had to be carted. There is an urgent need for a public supply.

*Langford.* There is a private supply from an artesian well which has been short at times. A public supply is urgently needed.

*Little Faringdon.* There is a private supply for part of the village. Some of the houses are supplied by wells which are polluted.

*Northmoor.* Shallow wells in gravel which are liable to pollution from cesspools and from premises.

*Shifford.* Supplied by wells.

*Standlake.* Supplied by shallow wells in gravel which are liable to pollution.

*Stanton Harcourt.* A scheme has been approved and a contract placed for a piped supply from the Air Ministry.

*Swinbrook with Widford.* Supplied from a private spring. There is shortage in the summer.



*Taynton.* A scheme has been approved by the Ministry for a supply for the village from a series of springs in oolite about a mile from the village.

*Upton and Signet.* Supplied from Burford. There are also some shallow wells.

*Westwell.* There are two private supplies and the rest of the village is supplied by wells.

A scheme for supplying the part of the district outside the present area of supply of the Witney scheme is at present receiving the consideration of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. The parishes of Langford, Broadwell, Kencot, Filkins and Broughton Poggs are regarded as specially urgent.

Of 5550 inhabited houses in the district it is estimated that 3000 are connected to the mains, i.e. roughly 60 per cent.

*Water Analysis.* 99 specimens were examined bacteriologically during the year with the results as follows:

				<i>Public</i>	<i>Private</i>
Class 1	...	...	...	15	19
Class 2	...	...	...	2	6
Class 3	...	...	...	6	14
Class 4	...	...	...	—	37

*Drainage and Sewerage.* There is a system of public sewers with sewage disposal works at Eynsham, Burford and Little Faringdon. The sewage plant at Broadwell Aerodrome has been taken over by the Council. Small sewage disposal plants have been installed in connection with new council housing estates at Standlake, Northmoor, Cote, Aston and Bampton.

*Sewage Disposal.* A scheme for providing adequate sewage disposal for the whole district has been prepared. Sewage disposal works are proposed to be established as follows:—

1. Alvescott, Black Bourton, Carterton and Shilton.
2. Brize Norton.
3. Bampton, Aston and Cote.
4. Bladon.
5. Handborough.
6. Crawley and Hailey.
7. Ramsden.
8. North Leigh.
9. New Yatt.
10. Filkins, Broughton Poggs, Langford, Broadwell and Kencott.
11. Clanfield.
12. Northmoor.
13. Standlake.
14. Stanton Harcourt.
15. Ducklington.
16. Eynsham.

## SECTION D

## HOUSING

*Unfit Houses.* The Rural Housing Survey was completed early in 1953, but in view of the length of time which has elapsed since its commencement, a re-assessment was made of all premises in Class 4. The following table shows the final classifications:—

No. of houses (£20 or less rateable value)	...	5518
Class 1	... ..	2064
Class 2	... ..	891
Class 3	... ..	2263
Class 4	... ..	300

Many of the premises originally placed in Class 4 were found to have owner-occupied and had been reconditioned; in some instances two or more cottages have been converted into one.

*Housing Act. Sec. 11.* 11 Official Representations have been made during the year affecting cottages in the following villages:—

Standlake 4, Bampton 2, South Leigh 3, Hardwick 1, Brighthampton 1. In the case of the cottages at Standlake the Council proposes to acquire the land for the erection of old people's bungalows.

*New Houses.* 131 Council Houses have been completed during the year and 26 have been built by private enterprise.

*Hutted Camps.* The number of hutted camps is being steadily reduced. While the present housing shortage exists it is, however, essential there should be some huts as emergency accommodation for homeless families or even in some cases for problem families.

*Moveable Dwellings.* At the end of 1953 there were 470 caravans in the district—almost all being permanent. The highest number is in the parish of Black Bourton (Carterton) where there are 405 on 35 licensed sites; they are occupied by members of the United States Air Force. As a result of co-operation between the U.S. Air Force, site owners, the County Council and the Witney R.D.C. standard conditions have been drawn up with reference to licensed sites.

The Council have accepted delegation of powers from the County Council to deal with applications under the Town and Country Planning Act 1947 in respect of single caravans.

*Action under Statutory Powers:**Housing Act 1936. Secs. 9, 10 and 11.*

No. of houses in respect of which notices were served ...	3
No. of houses rendered fit after formal notice ... ..	0
(1) By owners ... ..	0
(2) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0

*Secs. 11 and 13*

No. of Demolition Orders made ... ..	8
No. of houses demolished ... ..	0

*Sec. 12. 0**Public Health Acts*

No. of houses requiring informal notices ... ..	74
No. of houses in which defects were remedied after in- formal notice ... ..	46
No. of homes requiring formal notices ... ..	8
No. of houses in which defects were remedied after service of informal notices ... ..	7
(1) By Owners ... ..	7
(2) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

## SECTION E

## FOOD INSPECTION

*Meat Inspection.* This is carried out by Mr. W. Hetherington, Sanitary Inspector, Witney Urban District, at the Central Slaughter, Witney. The R.D.C. Sanitary Inspectors have also assisted there during the absence of the U.D.C. Sanitary Inspector.

Regular visits have been paid to butchers' shops in the district and a total of 623 lbs. of meat was voluntarily surrendered—mainly due to decomposition.

*Food Premises.* Visits were made to food premises during the year. Advice given where necessary; the general standard has improved considerably. During the year 225 lbs. of food were found to be unfit for consumption.

*Food and Drugs Act 1938. Sec. 15.* By-laws under this section have been adopted by the Council and supplied to all persons in charge of food premises. Visits are carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors to ensure that they are being complied with.

*Food Poisoning.* No cases occurred during the year.



*Ice-Cream.* 49 premises were registered during the year, mainly for the sale of unwrapped ice-cream. 13 samples were taken for examination and found to be in the following grades:

Grade 1 ...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Grade 2 ...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Grade 3 ...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Grade 4 ...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

*Liquid Egg.* As a result of an investigation carried out by the Public Health Laboratory on behalf of the Ministry regular samples were taken from an egg packing station in the district. 52 samples were taken in 1953 and in one instance *Salmonella Typhimurium* was found. These eggs are used entirely for cooking purposes, mainly by bakeries.

*Milk. (a) Samples.* Sampling of milk was started in August 1953. The following is a summary of the results of these samples.

				<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Total</i>
Ungraded	...	...	...	7	2	9
Pasteurised	...	...	...	1	—	1
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	9	3	12
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)				2	—	2

Samples taken from four Retailers were found to be unsatisfactory and following investigations into their methods of cleansing utensils and bottles, a marked improvement was noticed, subsequent samples being satisfactory.

Three samples were submitted for biological test ('guinea pig' test), all were found to be free from Tuberculosis and *Brucella Abortus*.

*(b) Milk (Special Designation) Act, 1949, Licences*

Tuberculin Tested Milk Dealers Supplementary	2
Pasteurised Milk Dealers Supplementary	... 3
Sterilised Milk Dealers Supplementary	... 1

The following are the statistics required by the Ministry in connection with Food Hygiene.

No. of Food Premises in the Area:

General Stores	...	...	...	...	...	72
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	15
Cafés and Hotels	...	...	...	...	...	30
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	19

No. of Food Premises registered under Food and Drugs Act 1938.  
Sec. 14. 52

No. of Dairies registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949.  
8 Dairies, 6 Supplementary, 12 Undesignated.

No. of Inspections of Food Premises. 540.

## SECTION F

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR

				No. of Cases Notified	No. Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	8	5	0
Measles	...	...	...	374	0	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	67	0	0
Pneumonia	...	...	...	12	0	3
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	3	2	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1	0	0
Dysentery	...	...	...	1	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	1	1	0
Cerebrospinal Fever	...	...	...	1	1	0

The incidence of the notifiable diseases, apart from Measles and Whooping Cough, has been exceptionally low.

*Scarlet Fever.* 8 occurred, 5 of which were removed to hospital. All the cases occurred in children of school age. Cases occurred in the following parishes: Filkins 2, Clanfield 2, and one case in each of the following parishes: Shilton, Hailey, Carterton and Curbridge.

*Measles.* 1953 was an epidemic year for Measles. 374 cases were notified. There were no deaths and few complications were reported.

*Whooping Cough.* 67 cases were notified during the year. Immunization for Whooping Cough is now available through the Immunization Scheme of the County Council.

*Poliomyelitis.* 3 cases occurred. Two were paralytic. One was an acute case with bulbar paralysis in a boy age 6 who died within a few hours of onset. The other paralytic case occurred in a baby age 15 months, who lived in a caravan with his parents. There was a history of his mother having had a febrile illness within the previous three weeks. A non-paralytic case occurred in a girl age 15.

*Meningococcal Meningitis.* One case occurred in a child, age 8, at Carterton.

*School Closures.* Nil.

*Non-notifiable Diseases.* The following non-notifiable diseases have been reported from the schools:

Chickenpox 37; German Measles 7.

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary Male	Pulmonary Female	Non-Pulmonary Male	Non-Pulmonary Female	Pulmonary Male	Pulmonary Female	Non-Pulmonary Male	Non-Pulmonary Female
— 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1— 5	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
5—15	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
15—25	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
25—35	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
35—45	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
45—55	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
55—65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65—	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	8	8	2	3	1	0	0	0

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948

1. *Inspections*

1. Factories to which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 apply ... ..	29	7	1	0
2. Factories to which Sec. 7 applies ... ..	65	31	0	0
3. Other Premises to which Sec. 7 applies ... ..	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—
Total	94	38	1	0

2. *Defects Found*

Sec. 1. Want of Cleanliness	—	—	—
Sec. 2. Overcrowding	—	—	—
Sec. 3. Unreasonable temperature	—	—	1
Sec. 4. Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—
Sec. 6. Ineffective Drainage of floors	—	—	—
Sec. 7. Sanitary conveniences	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act ... ..	1	—	—
No. of outworkers ... ..	111		













